

**TABAC COMPANIES  
LIKELY TO AFFECT  
INTERNATIONAL  
TRADE**

**New Commissioners Expect  
to Check Up on Manage-  
ment of Corporations.**

**EXPERT OUTLINES PLAN  
FOR POTOMAC POWER CO.**

**Declares \$6,000,000 Must Be Spent  
in Next Ten Years to Keep  
Pace With City Growth.**

**Misses That \$12,000,  
Daniels Tells Denby  
As Correspondent**

Josephus Daniels was back at the Navy Department today, but he did not answer questions. Joining the group of Washington correspondents at his regular press conference with Secretary Denby, Mr. Daniels fired a few questions at his pressmen, hoping for a "story" for his paper, the Raleigh (N. C.) News and Observer. They produced no results, so the former Secretary described feelingly to Mr. Denby the natural advantages of Raleigh for a fleet base or naval air station or almost anything like that.

"After two weeks on your old job I have a very well defined idea of what kind of a vacation you had," Secretary Denby replied.

Mr. Daniels will spend several days here getting up material for articles on naval subjects he plans to write.

### 400 ARE "LAD OFF" AT D. C. TERMINAL

**Big Reduction in Force Since  
the First of  
March.**

Four hundred of the 2,500 employees of the Washington Terminal Company have been "laid off" since the first of March, effecting a saving of \$55,000 and \$95,000 per month, it was learned today. More than 150 of this number were dropped during the past two days.

Officials ascribe the cut in forces principally to the necessary readjustment warranted by the sluggish condition of railroad transportation and partially to the ordinary seasonal changes between winter and summer.

**Shops Hardest Hit.**

The forces hardest hit in the lay-off of those employed at shops where approximately 200 were dropped from the pay roll. The savings effected by the decrease in personnel cannot be accurately judged, according to officials, on account of the large number of unskilled laborers included in the monthly turnover classification. Estimates show, however, that the monthly savings will be about \$10,000.

The cut at the terminal, it was said by officials, is the first definite flare-back felt in Washington from the stagnation of national transportation. The reflection has come in the necessity for retrenchment and from more infrequent use of equipment.

**Equipment in Fair Shape.**

"Our equipment is in fair shape," one official stated. "The shops are hit the hardest because the fact that our equipment has been kept in good condition. The maintenance of way work presented at the opening of the hearing today on the petition of the company for continuation of the extension of the term of the lease."

The present rate for lighting current to households is 8 1/2 cents per kilowatt hour, and for business districts on April 1, unless the commission acts in the meantime. There is a reduction of 10 per cent for wholesale users on April 1 if a new order is not issued.

John P. Jones, consulting engineer of Stone & Webster, Incorporated, who recently made a survey of the company's plant, told the committee that the figures would have to be spent between now and 1930 to permit the company to meet the demand for service.

**Point to Show Need.**

The point of the testimony was to show that the company will have to spend a higher rate for power in the value of its property in order to attract the necessary capital to carry out the extension of the term of the lease.

The witness said he found it would be better for the company to extend the Benning plant station than to build a new station elsewhere. He characterized it as one of the most efficient plants for its size and age in the country.

**Estimating the amount of the company must spend in the next ten years for the extension of the term of the lease, the witness said, and another in 1928. A switch in the development of a \$500,000 also is needed, he said.**

**Outlines Extensive Program.**

The extension program for ten years, as outlined by the witness, follows:

In 1921, expend \$576,000; 1922, \$587,000; 1923, \$1,181,000; 1924, \$386,000; 1925, \$465,000; 1926, \$394,000; 1927, \$511,000; 1928, \$1,255,000; 1929, \$211,000; and 1930, \$267,000. This gives a total of \$6,323,000 for the extension of the actual cost of construction work at present prices, with no allowance for the general corporate expenses incident to the development.

The witness estimated the output of the power company at 230,000,000 kilowatt hours in any year.

**In answer to questions from Attorney S. E. Bowen, for the company, the witness stated that the company is economical to have one power plant to develop current for the Washington Railway and Electric and the Potomac Electric Power company, and that each company had a separate plant.**

Chairman Kutz of the commission questioned the witness as to whether the railway company is getting all the advantages of the joint plant. He did not feel that in such a joint use the companies should share equally in the advantages of a single plant.

**Suggests Benefit for Public.**

The witness replied it might not always be true that each company would share.

Attorney Yellott, for the company, suggested that since probably 100 per cent of the users of current are riders on street cars, whatever benefits result from joint operation go to the public in any event.

**Chairman Kutz, who believes street car riders should pay the cost of running the cars, asked whether the cost of that service, called Mr. Yellott's attention to the case of a large concern that has an electric plant of thousands of dollars, but does not have occasion to use the street cars in its business.**

Mr. Jones then presented considerable testimony as to the rates at which electricity is being sold in various parts of the country to show that a substantial rate of return on a property is needed now in order to borrow money.

In telling of the plans for developing the power plant here, he said the plan has been so worked out that it will be done in steps and can be continued on page 2, column 3.

### BAL WILL HEAD COMMITTEE ON D. C.

**Three Republicans Are New  
to Assignment Likely to  
Be Made.**

Senator L. Heister Ball of Delaware will head the Senate committee on the District of Columbia, according to the action of the republican committee on committees, it was learned today.

Official announcement of the assignments of republicans will not be made until after the lists have been submitted to the republican caucus of the Senate for its approval when Congress reassembles next month. In addition to Senator Ball, the republican members of the District committee, it is learned, will be Senators Dillingham of Vermont, Jones of Washington, Capper of Kansas, Elkins of West Virginia, Gooding of Idaho, Cameron of Arizona and Welles of Maryland.

**Ball District's Friend.**

The three senators are new to the committee and two of them, Senators Cameron and Welles, have just come to the Senate. The other new member, Senator Gooding, came into the Senate at the last session to take the place of Senator Nugent, who resigned.

**Senator Ball, the new chairman of the committee, has taken a keen interest in district affairs. His name is associated with the act creating the District rent commission. He was chairman of the subcommittee which investigated the high cost of living in the District.**

The Delaware senator is keenly interested in the development of the National Capital, and in obtaining a square deal for all of its citizens. He has made a study of the street car lines and is a strong believer in a merger of the street car lines.

**Senator Welles of Maryland is another friend of the District. He has been a member of the committee since 1916, and is familiar with the problems of the capital.**

Senator Gooding and Senator Cameron are both men of affairs, and it is believed that their assistance in dealing with District matters.

**Plan to Increase.**

In order to take care of all the incoming republican senators as well as the members of the committee, it is proposed to the republican caucus that the number of members be increased from three to five.

There was a considerable contest over the chairmanship of the committee. The limit now placed on the size of committees is fifteen.

**The chairman of the committee on agriculture goes to Senator Norris of Nebraska, the ranking member. The naval affairs committee, but this was abandoned.**

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**Command Approaches to Rhine  
and Are Held Necessary.**

**PARIS, March 19.—The occupation of the Mulheim and Speldorf railway stations in the Ruhr district of Germany by French troops was simply a further step in the plan adopted by the London reparations conference, it was explained in official circles here today.**

The stations command the approaches to the Rhine and their possession was necessary to make the occupation effective, it was said.

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**Stranger of Ninth Magnitude in  
Capricorn Constellation.**

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass., March 19.—Discovery of a comet of the ninth magnitude was announced in a cablegram to the Harvard college observatory today.**

The comet was discovered by the Astronomical Telegrams at Brussels, and said that at Cape Town on March 14, 1921, the comet was sighted in the constellation of Capricorn.

**Today's News  
in Paragraphs**

- Reclassification sure to come up in next session. Page 1
- Uchida declares Japan will insist on Bible inspired confession—Young Decker blames devil for murder. Page 1
- President invited to church anniversary tomorrow. Page 1
- Russia signs treaty to pay Poland 20,000,000 gold rubles. Page 2
- Municipal examining board for naming teachers of schools is suggested. Page 2
- Battle develops from great ambush in County Cork. Page 2
- Auto show closes tonight; attendance figures are being tallied. Page 3
- Estate tax exempt from income return. Page 3
- Scottish playlet at the Willard draws enthusiastic crowd. Page 3
- Detour Federation of Labor criticizes Gompers for impugning Roosevelt's suggested recognition of Russia. Page 4
- Revision of treaty of Sevres success for French diplomacy. Page 4
- North Idaho to launch campaign to create new state called Lincoln. Page 4
- Fourteen thousand protest "horror on Rhine" meeting in New York. Page 4
- Nearly 6,000 anti-refugee crosses in Finnish frontier. Page 5
- Final appeals made for sixteen on trial in Matweev mine case. Page 7
- Society of Natives told when fishing and hunting was good at 17th and 18th streets. Page 33



### WA! CLEARED FOR RECLASSIFICATION

**Appropriations Committee  
Already Outlining Bill to Be  
Presented Next Session.**

Legislation reclassifying the employees of the government and making a fairer distribution of work and pay is to be put through at the coming session of the new Congress, according to Senator Curtis of Kansas, republican whip of the Senate and a member of the appropriations committee now charged with the work of drafting the reclassification bill.

The Kansas senator pointed out to the members of the committee today that the appropriations committee has cleared the decks, so far as the special session is concerned. All of the big supply measures for the government for the coming fiscal year, which are handled by that committee, were disposed of before the close of the last session of Congress.

**Committee's First Chance.**

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### EXPLOSION KILLS WOMAN.

**CHICAGO, March 19.—A bandit was shot to death by a watchman, a house was bombed and a woman was killed in a mysterious explosion within an hour early today.**

Two bandits attempted to break into the Adler Packing Company offices and one was shot to death by Carey Mason, negro watchman. Within a few minutes a terrific explosion set fire to a house in another part of the city and when firemen entered they found the body of Mrs. Frances Schirmer, sixty-five years old, stretched across a trunk.

**INSPIRED BY BIBLE,  
ADmits HE SLEW**

**Young Decker, 18, Says Devil  
Prompted Killing of  
Leroy Lovett.**

**By the Associated Press.**

**WARSAW, Ind., March 19.—**Memories of his early religion revived by a letter urging him to confess his sins and seek forgiveness, combined with the softening influence of motherly advice given by Mrs. C. B. Moon, wife of the sheriff of Kosciusko county, have resulted in a confession from Virgil Decker, eighteen years old, in which he declares that he alone was responsible for the death of Leroy Lovett, a nineteen-year-old youth of Elkhart, Ind., with whom he had chummed. Decker signed the confession early today in the presence of Mrs. Moon, her husband, three detectives and two Warsaw citizens.

**During his arrest Tuesday at Marion, Ind., on the charge of murdering Lovett, the Decker boy has insisted that he had no part in the Lovett killing, but that he was inspired by the Bible to do it.**

The boy said he had found something very comforting.

**"I am a Christian and I believe in the Bible," Decker replied he could recite many passages of Scripture, and he told the officers that he had read the Bible every day and which according to him, had given him the strength to resist temptation.**

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

**"I don't know what you mean by telling lies, don't you know that you will only make your case worse?" suggested Mrs. Moon.**

"Yes, I know it, but I have made my peace with God and I'm ready to tell all."

**He then gave a complete account of his trip from Elkhart, Ind., with Leroy Lovett, which started Friday night, but which he said according to the confession, ended Saturday morning in a summer cottage on the Tippecanoe river with the body of the Lovett boy.**

The story was later repeated in the presence of Sheriff Leavelle, who was incorporated in the signed confession.

**No motive for the attack was given, except that the boy said he felt "the devil told me to do it and I just did it."**

**Story of Attack.**

The attack, which was a head-on, was made according to the confession given out by the officers, shortly before noon Saturday and was not fatal, but during which the boy, according to the confession, ended Saturday morning in a summer cottage on the Tippecanoe river with the body of the Lovett boy.

**With the confession given by Virgil Decker, declaring that he was the only one implicated in the mystery of the Lovett's death, authorities are now endeavoring to establish a more definite motive than that ascribed by the boy.**

According to Mrs. Moon, the boy in his talk with her denied that there was an insurance plot to obtain payments of policies aggregating \$24,000 in event of his accidental death.

**EXPERTS AWAIT U. S. ORDERS**

Roland W. Bowden and his staff of experts, comprising the unofficial American delegation to the reparations commission at Paris, have been ordered to remain there and await instructions. Mr. Bowden will keep in touch with the Japanese language newspaper here, says.

### SENATE MUST FACE REOPENING DEBATE ON PEACE TREATY

**Party Pledges and Foreign  
Pressure Will Force De-  
cision on Versailles Pact.**

**LEAGUE OF NATIONS ISSUE  
SURE TO GET TO THE FORE**

**Covenant So Bound With Treaty It  
Could Not Be Avoided in End-  
ing State of War.**

**By N. O. MESSENGER.**

While a faction of senators bitterly deprecate reopening the subject of the league of nations, they are aware that the administration is confronted by a condition and not a theory regarding the Versailles treaty, and the declaration of a state of peace with Germany which involves collateral discussion of the league.

**Here are some of the hard, cold facts which the administration will face when the international situation is brought up on the arrival of M. Viviani:**

**1. The administration is pledged to an early peace with Germany and yet the administration is advised that to declare a separate peace now would be regarded as weakening the position of the allies in their efforts to exact reparation from Germany and fulfillment of the terms of the treaty of Versailles.**

That "insistent" pressure will be brought to bear to have the treaty of Versailles laid before the Senate, with a new treaty, the Versailles treaty, and the declaration of a state of peace with Germany which involves collateral discussion of the league.

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### Ex-Kaiser's Meddling in International Affairs Stirs Dutch

**By Cable to The Star and Chicago Daily News. Copyright, 1921.**

AMSTERDAM, Holland, March 19.—Dutch newspapers express indignation over the fact that the ex-German emperor is permitted to abuse the right of asylum by meddling with international politics. Het Volk and other papers declare that the Kaiser is engaged in something else than merely cutting down trees at Doorn.

The paper says that Wilhelm, who charged his "court marshals" with the duty of forwarding the Kaiser's communications to the Dutch government, still fancies himself a monarch surrounded by his court, and is busy with propaganda for the old monarchial ideas. Het Volk adds that the Kaiser is still a dangerous person, and declares that his presence within Holland constitutes a serious threat to Dutch political relations with the allies, particularly in view of the fact that the Kaiser is engaged in something else than merely cutting down trees at Doorn.

### VIETNAM WILL AVOID MENTION OF DEBT

**Neither Will French Envoy  
Talk Politics Unless U. S.  
Brings Up Subject.**

**By PAUL SCOTT MOWBRER.  
By Cable to The Star and Chicago Daily News.  
Copyright, 1921.**

**PARIS, March 19.—**The report that Rene Viviani, who sails for New York today, will take up with the new administration the question of France's debt to the United States is vigorously denied by the ministry of foreign affairs. The truth is exactly as was cable to The Star last week. M. Viviani's mission is first one of courtesy and second one of information. He is charged with presenting the French government's congratulations to President Harding and with ascertaining, as far as possible, Harding's foreign policy. If, in addition, he engages in any political conversation the initiative must come from the United States.

**That this is indeed the real character of M. Viviani's mission is attested by the fact that he will be entirely unaccompanied by technical advisers, and that the circumstances would be necessary. The idea that the French would even welcome a discussion of the Versailles debt at this time is contrary to the fact.**

It is true that for the present France is unable to pay this debt; it is equally true, however, that receipts from the German indemnities are being used to pay the debt. The Versailles debt would double the payment possible. France, therefore, is proceeding to pay the debt, and that Germany will pay France and, second, that France will pay Britain and the United States.

**If for any reason the German indemnities should not be forthcoming, then the French debt to the United States would also naturally be changed. Meanwhile, the French government is strong if indirect interest in doing so, will naturally interest more and more to support the allied claims against Germany, even apart from the high moral issue which the French consider to be no less compelling now than during the war.**

### JAPAN TONSIST ON HOLDING YAP RIGHTS

**Uchida Says Interests Will  
Be Insisted On—Raps J. F.  
Stevens and U. S. Agitation.**

**By the Associated Press.**

**TOKIO, March 18.—**Japan will stand firmly on her mandate over the island of Yap, in the south Pacific, Viscount Uchida, the foreign minister, declared at a meeting of the budget committee of the diet today in reply to a question by Representative Etsujiro Uehara. The latter asked whether the attitude of Great Britain and the council of the league of nations and that of the United States regarding Yap did not affect Japan's interests, and also whether Japan intended to insist on her rights under the Yap mandate.

**Representative Uehara said that anti-Japanese agitation in the United States was spreading to other states besides California. He said that the United States was probably due to the fact that the California agitators were communicating with persons similarly disposed in other states, thus fanning anti-Japanese feeling.**

**Raps John F. Stevens.**

He also charged John F. Stevens of California with the spreading of anti-Japanese agitation in the United States. He said that Stevens was spreading the story that the United States was preparing to participate in an international conference to that end, and that the United States was preparing to build four capital ships of the Hood class. He said that Japan already had determined her naval policy, but would welcome an agreement among world powers to bring about a reduction in naval expenditures.

**Count Hirotsugu is accompanied by his wife and daughter, and is in Tokyo University, Japanese member of the commission on amendments to the covenant of the league of nations, who is on his way to Geneva.**

### TWO HELD IN MURDERS.

**Farmer Killed to Door and Shot.  
Taxi Driver Killed in Auto.**

**NASHVILLE, March 18.—**Two negroes were arrested here in connection with the killing of Thomas Mitchell, a farmer, and Frank Wilkes, a taxi driver, both of whom were shot to death at Cottontown, Sumner county, early yesterday.

The two men, together with Dan Cannon, another negro, who confessed to the killing of Mitchell, were found in the road near Mitchell's home. The two men, together with Dan Cannon, another negro, who confessed to the killing of Mitchell, were found in the road near Mitchell's home.

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